

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Claims 15-31 and 45-58 were previously canceled.

Please amend claims 1, 9-14, and 32 as shown herein.

Claims 1-14 and 32-44 are pending and are listed following:

1. (currently amended) A data communication system configured to communicatively link a host device and a remote client device with a point-to-point data communication link, the host device and the remote client device each configured for multipoint data communication over a distributed network, the data communication system comprising:

a remote data communication interface driver of the host device implemented in the remote client device, the remote data communication interface driver configured to communicatively link with a data communication interface of the host device via the point-to-point data communication link;

a virtual driver component configured to communicate with the remote data communication interface driver and the remote client device; and

a virtual network configured to communicatively link the remote data communication interface driver and the virtual driver component in the remote client device.

1 **2. (previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
2 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
3 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication
4 interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the
5 Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link.

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7 **3. (previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
8 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
9 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication
10 interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS
11 messages with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication
12 link.

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14 **4. (original)** A data communication system as recited in claim 1,
15 wherein the virtual network is a local area network.

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17 **5. (previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
18 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
19 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate
20 with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.
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1 6. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
2 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
3 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver configured to communicate
4 Remote NDIS messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

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6 7. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
7 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
8 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication
9 interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate with the
10 Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication link, and the
11 Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate with the virtual driver
12 component via the virtual network.

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14 8. **(previously presented)** A data communication system as recited
15 in claim 1, wherein the remote data communication interface driver is a Remote
16 Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver and the data communication
17 interface is a Remote NDIS component configured to communicate Remote NDIS
18 messages with the Remote NDIS driver via the point-to-point data communication
19 link, and the Remote NDIS driver is configured to communicate the Remote NDIS
20 messages with the virtual driver component via the virtual network.

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22 9. **(currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
23 in claim 1, further comprising a connection interface configured to couple the
24 point-to-point data communication link with the remote client device.
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2 **10. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
3 in claim 1, further comprising a Universal Serial Bus data communication
4 interface configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the
5 remote client device.

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7 **11. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
8 in claim 1, further comprising a 1394 bus data communication interface
9 configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote
10 client device.

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12 **12. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
13 in claim 1, further comprising a wireless data communication interface configured
14 to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote client
15 device.

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17 **13. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
18 in claim 1, further comprising a Bluetooth data communication interface
19 configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote
20 client device.
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1 **14. (currently amended)** A data communication system as recited
2 in claim 1, further comprising an infrared data communication interface
3 configured to couple the point-to-point data communication link with the remote
4 client device.

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6 **15-31. (canceled)**

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8 **32. (currently amended)** A method for implementing a
9 point-to-point data communication link between computing devices, the method
10 comprising:

11 implementing a remote network communication component of a host
12 computing device in a remote client computing device, the remote network
13 communication component designed for data communication over a distributed
14 network;

15 implementing a connection interface to couple the remote network
16 communication component with the host computing device; and

17 implementing a virtual network to communicatively link the remote
18 network communication component and a virtual driver component of the remote
19 client computing device.
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1 **33. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
2 implementing the remote network communication component includes
3 implementing a data communication interface driver to communicatively link with
4 a data communication interface of the host computing device via the point-to-point
5 data communication link.

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7 **34. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
8 implementing the remote network communication component includes
9 implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to
10 communicatively link with a Remote NDIS component of the host computing
11 device via the point-to-point data communication link.

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13 **35. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
14 implementing the remote network communication component includes
15 implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to
16 communicate Remote NDIS messages with a Remote NDIS component of the host
17 computing device via the point-to-point data communication link.

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19 **36. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
20 implementing the connection interface includes providing a point-to-point data
21 communication protocol interface.
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1 **37. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
2 implementing the connection interface includes providing a Universal Serial Bus
3 data communication interface.

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5 **38. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
6 implementing the connection interface includes providing a 1394 bus data
7 communication interface.

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9 **39. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
10 implementing the connection interface includes providing a wireless data
11 communication interface.

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13 **40. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
14 implementing the connection interface includes providing a Bluetooth data
15 communication interface.

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17 **41. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
18 implementing the connection interface includes providing an infrared data
19 communication interface.

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21 **42. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
22 implementing the virtual network includes providing a virtual local area network.
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1 **43. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
2 implementing the remote network communication component includes
3 implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver,
4 and wherein implementing the virtual network includes providing a virtual local
5 area network to communicate Remote NDIS messages between the Remote NDIS
6 driver and the virtual driver component.

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8 **44. (previously presented)** A method as recited in claim 32, wherein
9 implementing the remote network communication component includes
10 implementing a Remote Network Driver Interface Specification (NDIS) driver to
11 communicate Remote NDIS messages with a Remote NDIS component of the host
12 computing device via the point-to-point data communication link, and wherein
13 implementing the virtual network includes implementing a virtual local area
14 network to communicate the Remote NDIS messages between the Remote NDIS
15 driver and the virtual driver component.

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17 **45-58. (canceled)**
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